

REMARKS

Entry of this response and reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified patent application are respectfully requested. Please note that a supplemental information disclosure statement (SIDS) has been filed concurrently with the present response. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider and initial the cited references.

Claims 1, 18, 31 and 39-42 have been amended. Claims 15, 16 and 34-38 have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-14, 17-33 and 39-42 are pending.

Applicant respectfully submits that, upon entry of the amendments to the claims and the subject response, the application will be in condition for allowance. Applicant, thus, respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks.

Claims 1-20, 23-25, and 27-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,949.327 to Brown ("Brown"). Claims 21-22 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown.

As amended, the present claims are allowable over Brown. Independent claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Brown at least because it includes the feature of "bypassing the data signal around a distribution transformer from the medium voltage line onto a low voltage line and transmitting the data signal to a customer premise." Independent claim 18, as amended, is allowable over Brown at least because it includes the feature of "a power line bridge that communicates the data signal from the medium voltage power line to the low voltage power line." Support for these amendments are found through the present specification.

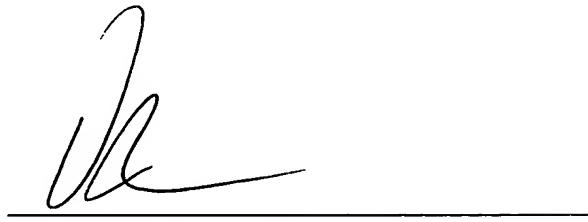
Brown does not teach or suggest at least these features of claims 1 and 18. In the office action, this feature was not identified in Brown or any of the other cited art. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14, 17-33 and 39-42 are allowable over Brown.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the claims are allowable and that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney, Vincent J. Roccia at (215) 564-8946, to discuss resolution of any remaining issues.



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Vincent J. Roccia
Registration No. 43,887

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439